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# **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANTI-TERRORISM SUMMARY**



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**(North Dakota) In high waters: Rain ravages Dunn Co., other parts of SW North Dakota.** Torrential rainfall in southwestern North Dakota on Friday night damaged roads, caused flooding and warranted warnings extending until early today. Many small communities don't keep complete records, so it can be hard to determine if weather is record-breaking, but National Weather Service meteorologist Patrick Ayd said based on what he saw, the weather might have set records for rainfall in a 24-hour period.

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/content/high-waters-rain-ravages-dunn-co-other-parts-sw-north-dakota>

**(North Dakota) EPA to open environmental crimes office in ND.** The EPA's Criminal Investigation Division is opening an office in Bismarck to address issues in the state's western oil patch. EPA spokeswoman Lisa McClain-Vanderpool says the agency signed an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to rent office space in Bismarck. She says four agents from Denver and Helena, Montana, will use the office for investigations.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/aug/22/epa-to-open-environmental-crimes-office-in-nd/>

**(North Dakota) North Dakota regulator outlines rail safety plan.** A North Dakota regulator outlined details Thursday of her proposal for a state-run rail safety program, which calls for adding three employees to help bolster federal oversight of the state's busy railroads.

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/business/energy/article/ND-regulator-outlines-plan-for-rail-safety-program-5703434.php>

## **REGIONAL**

**(Wyoming) Gas leaks close Campbell County Courthouse.** Construction workers accidentally ruptured a gas line forcing the closure of the Campbell County Courthouse in Gillette August 19. The building was reopened to county workers after about 4 hours but remained closed to the public.

<http://www.kulr8.com/story/26321692/gas-leaks-closes-campbell-county-courthouse>

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**(Minnesota) Ash borer infestation found in Olmsted County.** Minnesota officials confirmed that trees in Olmsted County are infested with the invasive emerald ash borer insect and added the county to others in the State that are quarantined to prevent the insects from spreading August 20. Ash tree lumber, chips, logs, and tree waste are not permitted to be taken out of the county unless authorized by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

[http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci\\_26378216/ash-borer-infestation-found-olmsted-county](http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_26378216/ash-borer-infestation-found-olmsted-county)

### NATIONAL

**(National) Grocery stores in multiple states hit by data breach.** Supervalu Inc. reported that payment card data from customers at 180 of its grocery stores in several States between June 22 and July 17 may have been compromised after the company experienced a breach of its systems. Supervalu operates or provides IT services to several grocery store brands including Hornbacher's Shop 'n Save, Farm Fresh, Albertsons, ACME, Jewel-Osco, Cub Foods, and other brands.

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9250402/Grocery\\_stores\\_in\\_multiple\\_states\\_hit\\_by\\_data\\_breach](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9250402/Grocery_stores_in_multiple_states_hit_by_data_breach)

**(National) UPS now the third company in a week to disclose data breach.** The United Parcel Service (UPS) announced August 20 that a security breach at 51 of its UPS Stores in 24 States may have exposed the personal information, including addresses and payment card information, of customers who completed transactions between January 20 and August 11. An investigation found previously unknown malware was installed on individual stores' systems but did not affect wider UPS networks.

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9250545/UPS\\_now\\_the\\_third\\_company\\_in\\_a\\_week\\_to\\_disclose\\_data\\_breach](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9250545/UPS_now_the_third_company_in_a_week_to_disclose_data_breach)

**(Missouri) National Guard ordered onto streets of Ferguson, Missouri.** The governor of Missouri ordered the National Guard into Ferguson, Missouri, August 18 after a riot broke out where Molotov cocktails were thrown at police and looters targeted several stores and restaurants, following a protest in the town August 17. Schools in Ferguson were closed August 18.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/michael-brown-shooting/national-guard-ordered-streets-ferguson-missouri-n182826>

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**(National) Nuke regulator hacked by suspected foreign powers.** A report on cybersecurity at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) stated that NRC systems were compromised in 3 attacks during the past 3 years, with 2 attacks conducted from abroad and 1 from an unknown individual using targeted phishing attacks and the compromise of an NRC employee email account. A NRC representative stated that computers used by employees that fell for phishing attacks were cleaned and user profiles changed as a precaution.

<http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2014/08/exclusive-nuke-regulator-hacked-suspected-foreign-powers/91643/>

### **INTERNATIONAL**

**(International) Tennessee-based hospital network hacked, 4.5 million records stolen.** Community Health Systems, which operates 206 hospitals in 28 States, announced August 18 that the personal information, including Social Security numbers, of 4.5 million patients was stolen in April and June by China-based hackers who used sophisticated malware. The company cleared their computer systems of the malware and implemented protections against future breaches.

<http://wreg.com/2014/08/18/tennessee-based-hospital-network-hacked-4-5-million-records-stolen/>

**(International) ISIS Beheads American Journalist.** Disturbing footage of the execution appeared on Tuesday in a video titled 'A message to the US', in which an apparently coerced James Foley, 40, recites a pre-prepared script presumably given to him by his captors which he delivers unflinchingly to the camera. Foley was kidnapped in Syria on Thanksgiving 2012 while working for the GlobalPost agency. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2729287/ISIS-beheads-missing-American-journalist-James-Wright-Foley.html>

### **BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY**

**(National) Bank of America agrees to nearly \$17B settlement.** Bank of America agreed to pay \$16.65 billion August 21 as part of an agreement to settle U.S. Department of Justice charges that the bank and its subsidiaries misrepresented risky mortgage-backed securities to clients prior to the 2008 financial crisis. The total includes a \$5 billion penalty, \$4.6 billion in remediation, and around \$7

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billion in relief to homeowners harmed by the bank's practices.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/apnewsbreak-bofa-reaches-17b-settlement-us-25055433>

### **CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR**

Nothing Significant to Report

### **COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**(Tennessee)** Maryville man arrested in Walmart bomb threat. Maryville police arrested and charged a suspect August 19 believed to be connected to a bomb threat that forced a more than 2-hour evacuation of a Walmart store and nearby gas station in Maryville July 26. [http://www.thedailytimes.com/news/maryville-man-arrested-in-walmart-bomb-threat/article\\_964c4fbc-d700-5ecf-a887-2fe6f8649353.html](http://www.thedailytimes.com/news/maryville-man-arrested-in-walmart-bomb-threat/article_964c4fbc-d700-5ecf-a887-2fe6f8649353.html)

### **COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR**

**(Kansas)** Hackers crash Clay Co. phones during Relay for Life fundraiser. Voice over IP (VoIP) communication services were disrupted for about 2 hours for Eagle Communications customers in the Clay Center, Kansas area August 15 when hackers caused a phone outage by making hundreds of millions of calls into the network and making the system unusable. <http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/Hackers-Behind-Phone-Outage-In-Clay-County-271463051.html>

**(Washington)** CenturyLink faces \$173K in fines for November outage. The Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission cited CenturyLink with 15,935 violations and proposed \$173,000 in fines for failing to communicate with the commission and its customers during a 10-day outage that left a majority of the San Juan Islands without telephone, Internet, and cell phone services during November 2013. <http://www.sanjuanjournal.com/news/272083591.html>

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## **CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

**(International)** SolarWorld recalls solar systems with copper grounding lugs due to electrocution, electric shock or fire hazard. SolarWorld announced a recall of around 1.5 million solar systems with bare-copper grounding lugs in the U.S. and Canada due to the potential for the lugs to corrode, which could cause a faulty ground circuit and pose electric shock, electrocution, or fire hazards to consumers. <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/2014/SolarWorld-Recalls-Solar-Systems-with-Copper-Grounding-Lugs/>

## **DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR**

Nothing Significant to Report

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**(New York)** Tioga County officials recall evacuation message. Tioga County emergency officials were preparing to notify residents of concerns surrounding the Valley View Pond dam when a message being programmed into the county's reverse 9-1-1 system was sent by accident, directing residents in Richford to evacuate August 21. Emergency management officials met with residents to explain the situation and address concerns while the Richford Fire Department started the process of siphoning water from the pond August 22 to reduce water hazard at the dam.

<http://www.stargazette.com/story/news/local/2014/08/22/richford-tioga-county-sheriff-valley-view-pond/14432439/>

## **ENERGY**

**(Tennessee)** TVA board votes to retire Memphis coal plant. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) voted August 21 to retire the coal-fired units at its Allen Fossil Plant in Memphis by December 2018 and replace them with a natural gas facility in order to reduce emissions under an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www.wbbjtv.com/news/regional/TVA-board-votes-to-retire-Memphis-coal-plant-272247021.html>



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**(North Dakota) Oil and Gas Division reports saltwater spill near Williston.** The North Dakota Oil and Gas Division reported that a leaking pipe at a Kodiak Oil and Gas saltwater disposal site near Williston caused 300 barrels of saltwater to be spilled. The company stated that the spilled material was contained and recovered. <http://www.valleynewslive.com/story/26341448/oil-and-gas-division-reports-saltwater-spill-near-williston>

### **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**(California) Former Rancho employees charged with 11 felonies.** An indictment unsealed August 18 charges two former co-owners and two former employees of the now defunct Rancho Feeding Corporation with mail fraud, and distributing adulterated, misbranded, and uninspected meat after they allegedly processed cows with “cancer eye”. About 9 million pounds of beef processed at the company’s Petaluma slaughterhouse was recalled in February after investigators learned the company processed and distributed meat from 101 cattle that were condemned or showed signs of cancer eye.

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/08/rancho-feedings-babe-amaral-charged-with-11-federal-felonies>

### **GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)**

**(Utah) Bomb threat, ransom demand cancels first day for Utah school.** Classes were cancelled at West Lake High School in Saratoga Springs, Utah, August 19 due to a bomb threat and a \$10 million cash ransom demand received through Skype. A bomb squad spent over 5 hours searching the campus before clearing the scene and allowing staff back into the school.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/58312166-78/threat-classes-bomb-cancelled.html.csp>

**(California) Teens arrested in plot after Web activities eyed.** South Pasadena police arrested 2 teenage boys August 18 for planning to kill 3 staffers then gun down students at South Pasadena High School in California after an investigation initiated by the school district uncovered the teens’ searches for guns, bombs, and explosives. <http://www.wbtw.com/story/26313013/police-2-california-boys-planned-school-shooting>

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**(New Mexico; Texas; Colorado) Accountant pleads guilty to fraud charges.** A Velarde accountant pleaded guilty August 18 to federal charges in connection to filing false unemployment claims, along with a co-conspirator, with the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and received over \$800,000 from the agencies. The two defendants attempted to defraud the unemployment system of \$1.3 million.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/blog/morning-edition/2014/08/accountant-pleads-guilty-to-fraud-charges.html>

**(Colorado) 3 juveniles charged in pipe bomb incident.** Aurora authorities charged three juvenile males August 19 in connection with attempting to detonate a pipe bomb at Mrachek Middle School August 9, prompting the cancellation of classes after the device, which only briefly ignited, was discovered August 11.

<http://www.9news.com/story/news/local/2014/08/19/3-juveniles-charged-in-pipe-bomb-incident/14307353/>

**(Alaska) University of Alaska internet outage caused by denial of service attack.** University of Alaska campuses in Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau experienced a network outage for several hours August 20 after hackers targeted the university's servers with a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack that came from multiple sources and consumed 490,000 of 500,000 available sessions on the university's firewall. The outage caused off-campus users to lose access to the university's Web sites and blocked Internet access for on-campus users.

[http://www.newsminer.com/news/local\\_news/university-of-alaska-internet-outage-caused-by-denial-of-service/article\\_a44f2834-2905-11e4-939e-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.newsminer.com/news/local_news/university-of-alaska-internet-outage-caused-by-denial-of-service/article_a44f2834-2905-11e4-939e-0017a43b2370.html)

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**(International) 38-day long DDoS siege amounts to over 50 petabits in bad traffic.** Incapsula reported that a video game company client experienced a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack that lasted 38 days between June 21 and July 28, used several attack vectors, and peaked at over 110 Gbps. The attack used techniques separately or at the same time and was mitigated by Incapsula

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using a scrubbing server. <http://news.softpedia.com/news/38-Day-Long-DDoS-Siege-Amounts-to-Over-50-Petabits-in-Bad-Traffic-455722.shtml>

**(International) Most popular Android apps open users to MITM attacks.** FireEye researchers conducted an analysis of the 1,000 most popular free Android apps in the Google Play store and found that many contain one or more vulnerabilities that could leave users vulnerable to man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacks.

<http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17279>

**(International) Average peak size of DDoS attacks spiked in Q2: Verisign.**

Verisign released its second quarter (Q2) 2014 distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack report, which found that the size of DDoS attacks increased by 216 percent compared to the first quarter of the year and that 65 percent of attacks exceeded 1 Gbps, among other findings. The report stated that the entertainment and media industry was the most attacked during Q2, followed by IT services.

<http://www.securityweek.com/average-peak-size-ddos-attacks-spiked-q2-verisign>

**(International) Cryptolocker flogged on YouTube.** Two researchers reported that cybercriminals have been observed to use purchased ad space on YouTube in order to redirect users to malicious sites serving the Cryptolocker ransomware. The researchers are scheduled to present at the Virus Bulletin 2014 conference detailing how legitimate ad networks could be used to spread malware.

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/08/20/cryptolocker\\_flogged\\_on\\_youtube/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/08/20/cryptolocker_flogged_on_youtube/)

## PUBLIC HEALTH

**(New Jersey) Medical worker stole patient identities, committed credit card fraud, Bergen prosecutor says.** Hackensack University Medical Center reported that a Cogent Healthcare Incorporated medical records coordinator was charged August 14 with stealing identities of several patients and using them to commit credit card fraud in 2012. The New Jersey medical center is working with authorities in the investigation and is in the process of notifying all patients impacted.

[http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2014/08/medical\\_worker\\_stole\\_patient\\_id\\_entities\\_committed\\_credit\\_card\\_fraud\\_bergen\\_prosecutor\\_says.html](http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2014/08/medical_worker_stole_patient_id_entities_committed_credit_card_fraud_bergen_prosecutor_says.html)

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## **TRANSPORTATION**

**(Michigan)** Traffic lights system hacked in Michigan. A team of researchers in Michigan conducted an experiment and were able to access nearly 100 wirelessly networked traffic lights and cameras and found that the network can be easily accessed because of a lack of encryption, vulnerability to known exploits, and default logins and passwords. <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Traffic-Lights-System-Hacked-in-Michigan-455713.shtml>

## **WATER AND DAMS**

Nothing Significant to Report

## **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS**

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center:** 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: [ndslic@nd.gov](mailto:ndslic@nd.gov); Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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